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Docket No. 216630US2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Masahiro TAMURA, et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/997,304

GAU: 3651

FILED: November 30, 2001

EXAMINER:

FOR: SHEET-LIKE MEDIUM ALIGNMENT APPARATUS

EN
3/25/03
JPS
#13

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

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REFERENCES

- ☐ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- ☐ A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- ☒ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- ☐ A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

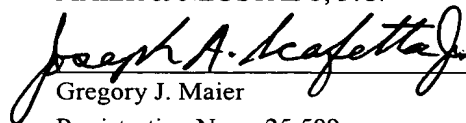
- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- ☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.


Gregory J. Maier

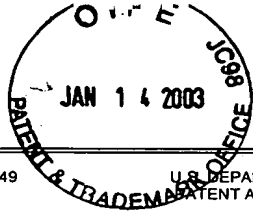
Registration No. 25,599

Joseph A. Scafetta, Jr.
Registration No. 26,803



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Form PTO 1449
(Modified)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY DOCKET NO.

216630US2

SERIAL NO.

09/97,304

APPLICANT

Masahiro TAMURA, et al.

FILING DATE

November 30, 2001

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3651

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,692,411	12/02/97	TAMURA			
	AB	5,263,697	11/23/93	YAMAZAKI et al.			
	AC	5,508,798	04/16/96	YAMADA			
	AD	5,762,328	06/09/98	YAMADA et al.			
	AE	6,199,853	03/13/01	ANDOH et al.			
	AF	6,145,825	11/14/00	KUNIHIO et al.			
	AG	6,296,247	10/02/01	TAMURA et al.			
	AH	6,231,045	05/15/01	YAMADA et al.			
	AI	6,264,191	07/24/01	SUZUKI et al.			
	AJ	6,343,785	02/05/02	YAMADA et al.			
	AK	6,494,453	12/17/02	YAMADA et al.			
	AL	6,322,070	11/27/01	YAMADA et al.			
	AM	6,394,448	05/28/02	SUZUKI et al.			
	AN	6,494,449	12/17/02	TAMURA et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
	AO					
	AP					
	AQ					
	AR					
	AS					
	AT					
	AU					
	AV					

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

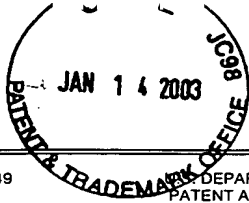
	AW	
	AX	
	AY	
	AZ	

☐ Additional References sheet(s) attached

Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 216630US2		SERIAL NO. 09/997,304	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Masahiro TAMURA, et al.			
				FILING DATE November 30, 2001		GROUP 3651	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6,416,052	07/09/02	YAMADA et al.			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached	
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							



LIST OF RELATED CASES

<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Serial or Patent Number</u>	<u>Filing or Issue Date</u>	<u>Status or Patentee</u>
PER CLIENT	5,692,411	12/02/97	TAMURA
0557-2648-2 CIP	5,263,697	11/23/93	YAMAZAKI et al.
0557-3073-2	5,508,798	04/16/96	YAMADA
0557-3855-3	5,762,328	06/09/98	YAMADA et al.
0557-4077-3	6,199,853	03/13/01	ANDOH et al.
0557-4390-2	6,145,825	11/14/00	KUNIHIRO et al.
0557-4528-3	6,296,247	10/02/01	TAMURA et al.
0557-4701-2	6,231,045	05/15/01	YAMADA et al.
0557-4731-2	6,264,191	07/24/01	SUZUKI et al.
0557-4948-2	6,343,785	02/05/02	YAMADA et al.
197762US2	6,494,453	12/17/02	YAMADA et al.
202416US2 DIV	6,322,070	11/27/01	YAMADA et al.
206414US2 DIV	6,394,448	05/28/02	SUZUKI et al.
209717US3	09/886,109	06/22/01	ALLOWED
210453US3 DIV	6,494,449	12/17/02	TAMURA et al.
211791US2 DIV	6,416,052	07/09/02	YAMADA et al.
215227US2	09/984,090	10/26/01	ALLOWED
216630US2*	09/997,304	11/30/01	PENDING
217391US2	10/015,634	12/17/01	PENDING
221094US3	10/101,741	03/21/02	PENDING
221900US3	10/118,956	04/10/02	PENDING
228811US2	10/253,652	09/25/02	PENDING

Present Application; listed for information
GJM/akh

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